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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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JUAN GRIS EXHIBITION TO OPEN AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IN APRIL 1958

Three museums will collaborate with the Museum of Modern Art in organizing an exhibition of paintings by the Cubist artist Juan Gris, James Thrall Soby, Chairman of the Museum of Modern Art's Department of Painting and Sculpture and director of the forthcoming exhibition announced today. The exhibition will open in New York at the Museum of Modern Art on April 2, 1958. It will then be shown at the collaborating institutions: the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, opening June 24; the San Francisco Museum of Art, beginning August 11, and the Los Angeles County Museum beginning September 29, 1958.

Jose Vittoriano Gonzalez, or Juan Gris, as he called himself, adopted his pseudonym just before settling in Paris in 1906. There he rented a studio in the building where his friend and countryman Picasso worked and eventually became part of the group of artists who were inventing and experimenting with cubism. Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, who was Picasso's dealer and friend, also became the champion and supporter of Gris. Next to Picasso, Gris was the favorite painter of Gertrude Stein, who wrote about him and his work with more fervor than she wrote about any other artist. In his maturity, and especially from 1911 to 1922, Gris pursued the formal researches of Cubist painting, creating a style which showed classical qualities of order and clarity, and its own distinctive color harmonies. After 1922, he painted in a more relaxed, naturalistic manner, as so many artists throughout Europe were also doing in the immediate post-war period.

Between 50 and 60 paintings and a limited selection of gouaches, drawings and prints are being borrowed from well-known public and private collections here and abroad for the exhibition. Sam Hunter, Associate Curator of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture, is Associate Director of the exhibition. Mr. Soby is writing an extensive, illustrated monograph on Gris which will be published by the Museum of Modern Art when the exhibition opens in New York.

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, NYC. CI 5-8900